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Lynn Holton
Public Information Officer

NEWS RELEASE

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Commission on Judicial Appointments to Consider Appointment to Court Of Appeal

Confirmation Hearing Set for Sept. 24 in San Francisco

San Francisco—A public meeting has been scheduled by the Commission on Judicial Appointments for Thursday, September 24, at 2:00 p.m. in the Supreme Court Courtroom, Earl Warren Building, 350 McAllister Street, San Francisco, to consider the appointment by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger of former state Senator Charles S. Poochigian as Associate Justice of the Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District (Fresno).

Mr. Poochigian, an attorney with the law firm of Dowling, Aaron and Keeler since 2007, was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the death of Justice Thomas A. Harris. Mr. Poochigian previously served as a state Senator from 1998 to 2006.

The state Constitution specifies that a gubernatorial appointment to the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal is “effective when confirmed by the Commission on Judicial Appointments.” The members of the commission who will consider the appointment of Mr. Poochigian are Chief Justice Ronald M. George, chairperson; Attorney General Edmund G. Brown, Jr., and Presiding Justice James A. Ardaiz, Presiding Justice of the Fifth Appellate District.

All communications to the commission by persons who wish to comment on the appointment should be received by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September, 17, 2009.

The commission’s address is:
Commission on Judicial Appointments
c/o Chief Justice of California
Supreme Court of California
350 McAllister Street

(over)

San Francisco, California 94102

Attention: Ms. AhMoi Kim, Secretary to the Commission

Anyone wishing to testify before the commission must state that request in writing and include a summary of the facts on which any testimony or opinion will be based. A request to be included on the speakers' list must be received by the commission by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2009.

The guidelines for the Commission on Judicial Appointments are published as an appendix to the California Rules of Court and are available on the California Courts Web site at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules/appendix/appdiv4.pdf>. The guidelines also can be obtained by calling the Public Information Office of the Judicial Council of California at 415-865-7726.

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